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CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

030840

SELECT FOR THE DCI

TIME STAMP

SUBJECT: NEW CHAIRMAN OF INTELLIGENCE SUBCOMMITTEE

SOURCE : UPI -034A

DTG : 030304 EDT

DISTO : DCI, DDCI, EX/DIR, DDI (2), DDP (VIA CSDO), DDS&T  
VIA D/OSI), DDS, D/NIPE, D/OCI (5), D/ONE, D/OSI,  
D/OSR, [REDACTED] OCI (4), C/OPSCEN,  
CSDO, PDB, INDICO, OER/CSS, RAD, SDO, COMIREX,  
CRS/ADD/SS, ADDED:

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BY DANIEL RAPOPORT

WASHINGTON (UPI) --ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE DOVES AND PENTAGON CRITICS IN THE HOUSE HAS BEEN NAMED CHAIRMAN OF A SUPER-SECRET SUBCOMMITTEE CHARGED WITH KEEPING TABS ON THE CIA AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES. AND HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE POST BY THE PRO-MILITARY CHAIRMAN OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE.

REP. LUCIEN NEDZI, D-MICH., SAID ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS HE IS GOING TO DO IN HIS NEW JOB IS VISIT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IN LANGLEY, VA.

AFTER THAT, SAID NEDZI, HE HOPES TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS ON U.S. INTELLIGENCE GATHERING ACTIVITIES.

AS AN EIGHT-YEAR MEMBER OF THE FULL COMMITTEE, NEDZI HAS ATTENDED BRIEFINGS BY CIA DIRECTORS FROM TIME TO TIME. BUT HIS NEW POSITION WILL PROVIDE HIM WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAINTAIN CLOSE AND CONSTANT OVERSIGHT OF THE AGENCY.

THE SUBCOMMITTEE NEDZI IS TAKING OVER WAS CONSIDERED SO VITAL BY REP. L. MENDEL RIVERS, D-S.C., THAT THE LATE CHAIRMAN OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE ALWAYS RESERVED THAT CHAIRMANSHIP FOR HIMSELF. NOT ONLY DID RIVERS' SUCCESSOR, REP. F. EDWARD HEBERT, D-LA., PASS UP THE POST, BUT HE EXPANDED ITS JURISDICTION.

"THE SPECIAL SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE IS DIRECTED TO MAKE PERIODIC INQUIRIES INTO ALL PHASES OF INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND WITHIN THE AGENCIES ESTABLISHED UNDER THE NATIONAL SECURITY ACT, AND TO MAKE LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS WHEN APPROPRIATE," HEBERT WROTE NEDZI IN A JULY 27TH LETTER OFFICIALLY DESIGNATING HIM CHAIRMAN.

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BESIDES THE CIA, NEDZI WILL HAVE JURISDICTION OVER THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY, TWO HUSH-HUSH BRANCHES OF THE PENTAGON.

NEDZI SAID IN AN INTERVIEW HEBERT HAD PLACED "NO RESTRICTIONS OF ANY SORT" ON HIM, THOUGH HE ADDED IT REMAINED TO BE SEEN WHAT THE FUTURE WOULD HOLD. ONE OF HIS GOALS, SAID NEDZI, WOULD BE AN EFFORT "TO RECONCILE THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW WITH THE NATIONAL SECURITY."

DESPITE NEDZI'S CRITICISM OF THE MILITARY AND ADMINISTRATION VIETNAM POLICY, THE CIA MAY BE IN FOR A BETTER RECEPTION THAN IT WOULD IMAGINE. APPARENTLY ITS DIRECTOR, RICHARD HELMS, SCORES HIGH WITH THE MICHIGAN DEMOCRAT.

"I HAVE BEEN TREMENDOUSLY IMPRESSED WITH MR. HELMS FROM THE FEW OCCASIONS HE HAS APPEARED BEFORE THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE," SAID NEDZI.

WHY DID HEBERT PICK HIM?

"BECAUSE HE'S A GOOD MAN," SAID THE LOUISIANA DEMOCRAT WHEN THE QUESTION WAS ASKED. "EVEN THOUGH WE'RE OPPOSED PHILOSOPHICALLY," HEBERT SAID, HE HAS COME TO RESPECT NEDZI'S ABILITY IN PRESSING HIS CASE.

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